



'SPARKS' OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL

An Award-Winning Newsletter

The Rotary Club of Altadena meets Thursdays at noon at the Altadena Town and Country Club

Rotary Club of Altadena - #772

Chartered: February 14, 1949, P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003

RI Pres: Jennifer E. Jones, Dist. 5300 Gov: Roger Gutierrez



Vance Graphics

THIS WEEK: GABRIEL SILVA

Location: Altadena Town and Country Club



Gabriel Silva is a civil and environmental engineer with over 30 years of experience in the industry. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona in 1991 and his Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University in 1993. After graduation, Gabriel began his career at CH2M Hill, where he worked as an environmental consultant for seven years. In 2000, he joined the Port of Los Angeles as an environmental manager, where he led the implementation and

certification of an Environmental Management System that was ISO 14001 certified by Lloyds of London.

In 2007, Gabriel accepted a position at the City of Pasadena as the Public Works Department's environmental Programs Manager. In this role, he developed a zero waste strategic plan and implemented several ordinances, including a ban on polystyrene food packaging and accessory food service ware, as well as residential and commercial organics recycling programs. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Gabriel has also been the Cub Scout Master for Altadena Pack 13 for the past five years. Throughout his career, Gabriel has demonstrated a strong commitment to protecting the environment and promoting sustainable practices. His expertise and dedication have made a significant impact on the communities in which he has worked.

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

February is: Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution Month

Officers

President: Doug Colliflower
626-524-4158

Vice President: Mark Mariscal

President Elect: Dr. Dawn Digrius Smith

Treasurer: Mike Noll

Bus: 626-657-2287

Secretary: James Gorton

Bus: 626-793-6215

Directors

Craig Cox

Maria Perez-Arton

Mark Mariscal

Sarah O'Brien

Maricela Viramontes

Doug Colliflower

Dawn Digrius Smith

Chairs

Club Admin: Dawn Digrius Smith

Membership: Maria Perez-Arton

Foundation: Steve Kerekes

Projects: Mike Zoeller

Subcommittees

Community Service: Craig Cox

Vocational Service: Steve Kerekes

Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards: Mike Zoeller

Youth Activities: Tony Hill

International Service: Sarah O'Brien

LAST WEEK: DAN STOVER MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

Program Chair & Review: Sarah O'Brien

The 2023 first round of the Dan Stover Music Contest, also known as the 'Club' round was held last Thursday in the Mendocino Room at Altadena Town and Country Club. Five contestants from John Muir High School competed for the chance to advance to the next round (regional) from which a finalist is picked to compete at the District Conference. A grand prize of \$5000 scholarship funds is awarded at the final.



Pictured: Karen Klages (far L) and Carina Jacob (far R) with contestants (details on following page)

The standard was very high and each contestant demonstrated terrific technical ability and musicality, making the judges' work very challenging! Our judges this year were: Irina Voloshina, Olivia Tsui and Steve Pribyl. More about them and links to their work is below.

Elizabeth Schreib was MC for the Q & A section of the program, while the judges deliberated. Elizabeth did a fantastic job interviewing each contestant and opening up the floor for members' questions and comments. Thank you, Elizabeth! Special thanks also to the family members and guests who accompanied the students, and staff members Karen Klages (PUSD Music Specialist and Band / Music Director) and Carina Jacob (Muir Interact Co-Advisor). All participants received a Certificate of Appreciation and a Target Gift Certificate.



Independent Living, reimagined

<https://www.ecsforseniors.org/montecedro/>

Rotary Sponsored Events:

March 2023 Read at Families Forward

May 4 - Mini Grant presentations to teachers

Garbis Der-Yeghian



33rd Annual Peace Conference



Exciting New Format

Virtual Session 1— Wednesday March 1, 2023 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

Virtual Session 2— Thursday, March 9, 2023 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

Live Session—Saturday, March 18, 2023 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum
18001 Yorba Linda Blvd, Yorba Linda, CA

Sponsorship Opportunities

Families Forward Learning Center invites you to join us for our 2023 Annual Soirée

Honoring Congresswoman Judy Chu and Abel Ramirez

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Support our children and families

For information, [click here](#)
Or contact Liz Kwong at liz@familiesforwardlc.org



L-R Elizabeth Schreib, Steve Pribyl, Sarah O'Brien, Ewan Lamond, President Doug Colliflower, Patricio Castro, Matthew Hart, Olivia Tsui, Anneliese Airitam, Nicholas Glover, Irina Voloshina.

We congratulate all the players and wish Nicholas the very best of luck for the next round! All are invited to attend and details will be posted, when available.

CONTESTANT DETAILS

(see photos opposite - details top to bottom):

Matthew Hart performed 'April in Paris' on Alto Sax

Patricio Castro performed 'El Pistolero' on Accordion

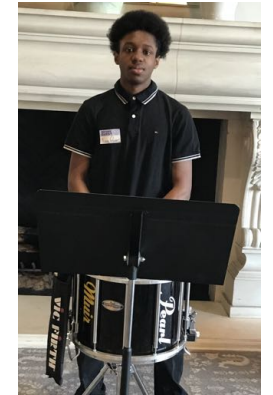
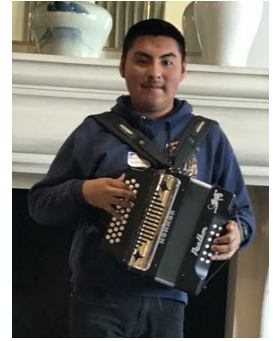
Nicholas Glover (winner) performed 'Snare Drum' on Snare Drum

Ewan Lamond (runner up) performed 'Giant Steps' on Alto Sax

Anneliese Airitam performed 'Air Gai' on Trumpet

MORE ABOUT THE JUDGES..!

Born in Odessa, Ukraine, **Irina Voloshina** had her first violin lesson at 6 years old. She studied at the Odessa Music School, the famous institution founded by Professor Stolyarsky early in the 20th century that brought to the world some of the greatest violin masters, such as Nathan Milstein and David Oistrakh. From there, Irina advanced into Odessa State Conservatory. Graduated from the Conservatory with a master's degree in Violin Performance and Pedagogy, Voloshina played in the Odessa Philharmonic for nine years. Since moving to



Southern California in 1993, Irina has appeared in recitals, chamber music groups, and orchestras such as Pasadena Symphony and Pops, Los Angeles Opera., California Philharmonic, Hollywood Bowl orchestras. She has performed in over 600 film scores including those by John Williams, Jerry Goldsmith, James Horner, and Hans Zimmer, to name a few. She performed for "American Idol" and the "MTV Music Awards" and was a member of the Academy Awards orchestra. During the pandemic, Irina founded the "Melodia Mariposa" music series performing on the driveway of her Altadena home, presenting over 65 free public concerts. On July 24, 2021, she was named Volunteer of the Year and received the Congressional Leadership Awards: Hometown Heroes of the Pandemic in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the People of the 27th Congressional District from Congresswoman Judy Chu.

<https://melodiamariposa.org/>

An award-winning and versatile conductor, **Ms. Olivia Tsui** distinguished herself as the first woman Music Director in the 86 years of history of the Glendale Symphony Orchestra. She was praised by the Los Angeles Times describing her performance as an "outstanding performance...with brilliant virtuosity". Plácido Domingo has described her as "an exceptional musician - very confident with the baton." Daily Astorian said, "Ms. Tsui should be a featured conductor for any music festival in the country." During her 9 years of association with the Glendale Symphony Orchestra, Ms. Tsui carried on the tradition of the orchestra established by her preceding Music Directors and guests – Carmen Dragon, Lalo Schifrin, John Williams, Henry Mancini and Andre Previn. Since appearing as both conductor and soloist with the International Chamber Orchestra in 1997, Ms. Tsui has conducted worldwide both symphonic and operatic repertoire. She was invited to guest conduct the famed Sofia Philharmonic, the Congress Orchestra of St. Petersburg Philharmonic Society of Russia, the National Symphony Orchestra of Mexico, Slovakia State Philharmonic and the Stara Zagora State Opera House in Bulgaria, among others. Born in Shanghai, China, Ms. Tsui studied violin and got her degree from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. She also studied at the Conducting Institute at Bard, New York, and has received a certificate with honor from the Advanced Conducting Academy after Ilia Musin in St. Petersburg, Russia. Besides traditional symphonic and operatic repertoire, Ms. Tsui has acquired many aspects of music through her professional training and experiences. Active since 1991 on the international stage and in major Hollywood motion picture recording studios, Ms. Tsui has been collaborating with illuminaries from the classical world to the pop scene, such as Plácido Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti, Celine Dion, Michael Jackson and Madonna. After 27 years as a tenure member of both the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and the Los Angeles Opera, she not only has become very fluent in Opera and Ballet music, but popular music, such as movie soundtracks, Broadway shows, and some jazz, pops and ethnic music as well. <http://www.oliviatsui.com/>

Black History Month Celebration at Farnsworth Park, supported by Altadena Rotary Club

L-R Daniela & Maricela Viramontes, Maggie Cortez, MC Howard Smith, Alejandro Miranda, Veronica Jones, Mark Mariscal



L-R Olivia Tsui, Steve Pribyl, Ilona Voloshina

Steve Pribyl grew up in Texas and has played traditional music in California since 1980. His musical career has included playing tenor banjo and wooden flute, but he has since primarily settled on uilleann (Irish) pipes as a primary instrument. He has received instruction from the likes of Seamus Egan, Mick Moloney, and Kevin Crawford, to name a few well-known musicians. His bands have opened for The Young Dubliners and Altan, and he has played at various festivals and venues in southern California, including the Hollywood Bowl. He has been a member of the Southern California Uilleann Pipers Club since 2002, and has received tutelage from some of the world's best uilleann pipers, including Mick O'Brien, David Power, Paddy Keenan, and others. He loves the expressiveness of the pipes, and relishes any opportunity to share his passion, whether it be via film scores or late-night sessions. He has since started sharing his piping talent with new students of the pipes in an effort to carry on the tradition. His latest band, Reaver Ship, can be found at pubs, weddings, and wakes, as the need arises.

Reaver Ship: reavership.com

Uilleann Piper: upipes.com